

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 03841 111739Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 HA-05 /076 W
-----084357 111743Z /70

O 111729Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4181
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 03841

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, AG, SP
SUBJECT: CUBILLO ATTACK: GOS CONTINUES WITHOUT RESPONSE
FROM GOA; CUBILLO AND HIS ACCUSED ASSAILANTS MEET PRESS
IN ALGIERS.

REF: MADRID 3792

1. THE GOS HAS STILL RECEIVED NO INFORMATION FROM THE
GOA, WE WERE TOLD APRIL 11 BY A KNOWLEDGEABLE MFA OFFICIAL
(MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA CHIEF CAJAL). IN RESPONSE
TO CONTINUING ALGERIAN "INSINUATIONS" OF OFFICIAL SPANISH
COMPLICITY IN THE ATTACK, CAJAL SAID, AND TO ALGERIAN
COMPLAINTS (NOTED IN THE PRESS HERE) ABOUT THE PROBLEMS
BROUGHT ALGERIA BY THIS "FOREIGN" AFFAIR, SPANISH
OFFICIALS, IN ADDITION TO ISSUING FLAT PUBLIC DENIALS,
ARE TAKING THE LINE THAT THE ALGERIANS BROUGHT THE
PROBLEMS ON THEMSELVES WHEN THEY DECIDED TO GIVE HAVEN
AND SUPPORT TO A KNOWN PROPONENT OF VIOLENCE AND SPONSOR
OF TERRORIST ACTS.

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2. ON APRIL 10, ACCORDING TO SPANISH PRESS REPORTS,
ALGERIAN AUTHORITIES PRESENTED REPORTERS IN THE CENTRAL
POLICE STATION IN ALGIERS WITH THE TWO ALLEGED DIRECT
AUTHORS OF THE ATTACK ON CUBILLO, JUAN ANTONIO ALFONSO
GONZALEZ (AKA LUIS MUNOZ RODRIGUEZ OR NEMOY RODRIGUEZ)
AND JOSE LUIS CORTES RODRIGUEZ, BOTH SPANISH CITIZENS.
ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS, ALGERIAN POLICE (WHO FORBADE

REPORTERS' TALKING WITH THE SUSPECTS ON GROUNDS OF NOT INTERFERING WITH THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION) SAID THE TWO HAD CONFESSED, THE WEAPON HAD BEEN RECOVERED, AND THE TWO HAD ACKNOWLEDGED THEY WERE "CARRYING OUT A MISSION". ALFONSO GONZALEZ, WHO HAD ACTUALLY WIELDED THE KNIFE, THE ASSERTIONS CONTINUED, SAID HE HAD BEEN IN ALGIERS IN MARCH WITH HIS "HIERARCHICAL SUPERIOR" AND WAS FOUND WITH "A FALSE PASSPORT GIVEN HIM BY HIS CHIEF IN MADRID."

3. REPORTERS WERE THEN TAKEN TO MEET WITH CUBILLO, DESCRIBED AS LOOKING TIRED AND WEAK IN HIS HOSPITAL BED, BUT WHO PROCEEDED NEVERTHELESS TO SPEAK ENERGETICALLY FOR SEVERAL MINUTES, BLAMING THE ATTACK ON "SPANISH INTELLIGENCE SERVICES COVERED IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PSOE."

4. THE ACCUSATION AGAINST THE PSOE, NEWSPAPERS SPECULATED, WAS WHAT BROUGHT ABOUT THE ARREST OF PSOE ALGIERS REPRESENTATIVE ENRIQUE BALLESTEROS (OR BALLESTER), (MFA UNDERSECRETARY SOLANO TOLD THE AMBASSADOR BALLESTEROS HAD ACTUALLY BEEN HELD 21 HOURS, NOT THE NINE HOURS ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED REFTEL.) THE PSOE IN MADRID REJECTED CUBILLO'S ACCUSATION AS "DEMENTED".

5. THE MADRID DAILY EL PAIS' ALGIERS CORRESPONDENT REPORTED THAT "VARIOUS POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC CONFIDENTIAL

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CIRCLES" THERE TEND TO ACCEPT GOS DENIALS OF COMPLICITY, ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE INCIDENT INTERFERES WITH SPAIN'S EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE "SPANISHNESS" OF THE CANARIES. DOUBTS AND QUESTIONS CONTINUE TO BE VOICED IN MADRID, NOTING BOTH THE CONTINUING CONFUSION OVER HOW BADLY CUBILLO WAS ACTUALLY INJURED AND THE LACK OF SUCCESS SO FAR IN IDENTIFYING ANY OF THE SPANIARDS (EXCEPT CUBILLO) ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN THE MATTER, INCLUDING THE TWO REPORTEDLY KILLED APRIL 8 IN REPRISAL (REFTEL PARAS 2-3). STABLER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PEPR, PINT, AG, SP, (CUBILLO, ANTONIO)
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